

a² cont. concentration of assimilable phosphorus in the fermentation broth is less than 0.15% w/v. --

In the Claims:

Cancel Claims 1-14.

Add Claims 15-34 as follows:

a¹ -- ~~¹⁶15.~~ A process for production of clavulanic acid comprising fermentation of a clavulanic acid-producing species of Streptomyces in a fermentation broth containing sources of assimilable carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus, wherein the starting concentration of assimilable nitrogen in the fermentation broth is greater than 5%, and wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus in the fermentation broth is less than 0.15% w/v during a growth phase of the fermentation and is allowed to decrease after cessation of the growth phase.

Rule 126 ~~¹⁶16.~~ A process as claimed in Claim ~~15~~¹⁶, wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus is allowed to decrease after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

~~¹⁸17.~~ A process as claimed in Claim ~~16~~¹⁷, wherein no assimilable phosphorus is added after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

~~¹⁹18.~~ A process as claimed in Claim ~~16~~¹⁷ wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus up to a fermentation time of 40 hours is 0.0015% to 0.15% w/v.

G1
cont'd
~~20~~
~~19~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~18~~¹⁹, wherein no assimilable phosphorus is added after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

~~21~~
~~20~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~18~~¹⁹ wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus is 0.002% to 0.05% w/v.

~~22~~
~~21~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~20~~²¹, wherein no assimilable phosphorus is added after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

23
~~22~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~15~~¹⁶, wherein the source of assimilable phosphorus is sodium phosphate, potassium phosphate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate, potassium dihydrogen phosphate, disodium hydrogen phosphate, dipotassium hydrogen phosphate, or a mixture thereof.

~~24~~
~~23~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~15~~¹⁶, wherein ammonia is not the sole source of assimilable nitrogen.

~~25~~
~~24~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~23~~²⁴, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen does not include ammonia.

~~26~~
~~25~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~23~~²⁴, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen includes soy bean flour.

~~27~~
~~26~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~24~~²⁵, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen includes soy bean flour.

~~28~~
~~27~~. A process as claimed in Claim ~~23~~²⁴, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen includes ammonium sulphate.